(b) whether Government have any plan to link those states in the near future;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Sikkim.

(b) to (d) The following New lines, which are under construction will connect the States mentioned against each:

Project	Length (km)	Estimated cost	States covered
		(Rs. crores)	
1. Balipara-Bhalukpong	35	14.18	Arunachal Pradesh
2. Silchar-Jiribam	49	39.57	Manipur
3. Lalabazar-Bhairabi	48	36.18	Mizoram

Guwahati-Burnihat, 27 km long has been proposed in 1989-90 Budget, at a cost of Rs. 25.78 crores, for linking Meghalaya. There is no proposal for providing a rail link to Sikkim on account of the difficult mountainous terrain involved.

Books containing derogatory remarks on women

3259. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a statement of Prof. Ram Reddy, Vice Chancellor of Indira Gandhi National Open University which appeared in the Times of India dated 25th December, 1988 to the effect that 22 English and 20 Hindi language instruction text books prescribed in Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Delhi contained derogatory references to women; and

(b) whether Government have ordered an enquiry to find out the circumstances under which such references were allowed in text books and the steps taken to ban such books?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Prof. Ram Reddy, Vice-Chancellor of the Open University, has made these observations as an academician in his individual capacity. His statement is based on the book by Shri Narendra Nath Kalia the "Sexism in Indian Education—The Lies We Tell Our Children."

Syllabi and text-books for Classes I to XII are prepared at the national level by the NCERT. The States are free to adopt/adopt these books. The States frequently have entirely new books written by their agencies.

In keeping with the National Policy on Education-1986 which emphasises education for women's equality and has included the concept of equality of the sexes in the core curriculum, the NCERT is preparing new text-books for all the classes from I to XII. The NCERT has taken care to ensure that no bias against women is in any way reflected in its text-books.

Since School Education is looked after primarily by the State Govern-

ments concerned, each State Government has a text-book preparation/prescription agency of its own. The bias against women reflected in the text-books of the States referred to in part (a) of the question has been brought to the notice of the States concerned. All the States have been requested to revise their text-books to bring them in conformity with the Education Policy as has been done by the NCERT. It is expected that these new sets of text-books will not reflect any bias against the women.

Delhi colleges in the red

3260. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants Commission has prepared a list of twenty Colleges in Delhi which are in the red;

(b) if so, what are the main reasons put forward by them and whether any suggestion in this regard has been made; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and what steps are being considered in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Chartered Buses flying in the capital without permits

3261. SHRI ANAND PRAKASH GAUTAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a large number of so called chartered buses are operating in the Capital without any permit or licences; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir. Instances of this nature have come to our notice.

(b) Directorate of Transport, Delhi Administration who are the authorities to regulate the transport operations in Delhi have been asked to intensify checking and take necessary action against the offenders, in terms of the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939.

India's efforts to solve the Kampuchean problem

3262. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister of State for External Affairs had paid a three day visit to Indonesia and Thailand recently this year;

(b) whether Governments of those countries had suggested that India should play a leading role in the finding a political solution to the Kampuchean problem;

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto;

(d) whether any concrete proposal for finding a political solution to the Kampuchean problem has been prepared by India; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof and what steps are being taken by Government of India to get the proposal accepted by all the concerned foreign Governments?